# FEDERAL AGENTS OUTTHRILL WILDEST OF NOVELS IN SECRET FIGHT AGAINST CRAFTY DRUG RING

Misstep in Tracking Peddlers and Over- objected to the bey lords of Criminal Organization Only One of Many Perils Hazarded Daily Two men, whom he had not seen before. by Picked Men

2,000,000 ADDICTS IN U. S. ARE UNSEEN FORCE BEHIND THEIR CEASELESS BATTLE

Country-Wide Crusade Is Helped by "Tips" From Unfortunates Who Are Trying to Escape From Fatal Grip of You're dealing with the Never mind Deadly Narcotics

TT IS "mun" in the shop talk of the Secret Service, and like mad, it is spattering the social fabric from its highest to its lowest levels.

Opium and its derivative drugs are meant. The Government and the authorities of cities from coast to coast are aroused as never before over the menace of narcotic drugs.

The use of these stimulants has grown to such an unbelievable extent and is shattering the health and lives of so many unfortunates that Federal, State and Municipal Gov-

ernments are determined to crush

Bootleggers are bubes in armis compared with the drug distributors. who operate in every underworld sone in America and are finding hordes of victims in the strata of mormal, everyday life.

The direct results of a habitual use of narcotics are terrible enough. But the traffic has another and equally sinister side.

Police trace to its influence many of the crimes of violence that have made the phrase "crime wave" familiar in many parts of the country.

The user, "charged" with his favorite poison, often becomes a Grenzied killer. Victims ever in need of money for drugs do not hesitate turn highwaymen. Many women shoplifters are drug victims, resorting to that method to finance their

Like beverage liquor which has been banished-legally-the drug traffic is entrenching itself politscally, seeking alliance wherever it can with the police and rearing a crop of super-peddlers who are emassing wealth by pandering to vicious appetites.

### Trained Men Hunting

Down Jackals of "Ring"

In this country society's first line of defense against the drug evil is the Government's narcotic agents. trained, fearless men, hunting down the drug-ring jackals. Since 1915 the Federal Govern-

ment has maintained a large staff of highly trained and well-paid agents, including a number of women. The crueade by Judge Monaghan.

Philadelphia, gives some indication of how far the drug traffic has ent into our its defenses—political and otherwise, Except for the incresent work of

these narcotic agents the surend of the drug habit might he ten times what it 1s. As it stands, the situation to clarming enough: herween 1 500,000 and 2,000,000 confirmed in the habit :

sections: those whose daty is to six men who would sell him as much of pervise the legal manufacture and dis- the drugs as was needed. fribution to physicians, dragger's hit. A meeting with one of these men. hospitals of narrouse grans and there took place a few days later in a South devoted to suppose on the same of Phondelphia house. They led him to

#### Every Raid Is Fraught With Deadly Danger

ly danger, for besides going arrived would have meant that he must take themselves, drug peddlers invariably a doze of one or another of the drugengage as protectors or bodyguard usen in the presence of these men. That who are among their own victims. The was one thing. Another was that "the recklessness of the drug fiend is saffi- big gurs" of the underground drug trade ciently known, since one of the chief are never drug-takers. Their profitfactors in drug addiction is the super- come solely from the exploitation of natural sort of courage which the drug the weak by the strong and intelligent

by works alone, is likely to result in given date. Just before that date immediate death.

moreover, for a high degree of versatil- able he sent the drug gang a message ty. In order to gain his contacts with explaining why he had failed to appear. the peddlers he must assume for the The reason given, as R- foresaw. time some disreputable role, generally was carefully investigated. that of the drug addict or of the peddler bimself.

An illustration may be taken from the records of the Philadelphia office. which covers the territors of Pennsyl-Maryland an instance more or less again. Again it reached the stage where

R-, a young probationer of the on payment of \$10,000. Another lies force, recently transferred from the cale was set for the sale,

sellers. A couple of the drug band

with me. I know all about him." On the day of the sale R -- was led to a room in a simbly section of town. were presented to him. One of these was at that time the lender of the great Philadelphia "drug ring." who had otherwise nequired the status of

the house, to watch, they said, against

Now, listen. said R-, softly on all ain't dealing with that boy.



R--- says that he would have shot in jail in Philadelphia.

and eventually sentences were given to

all five. One jumped his bail and fled

every man in the place. Indictments Underworld Gets Most

of Drugs From Europe

Part of loot seized at opium den

veillance of the customs officers avails little. Any one familiar with shins can think of a thousand places in which a drugs is not an offense, merely sale and small package may be hidden absolutely safe from detection. An example is given in a cache accidentally dis-One of the firemen of a freighter Here again the taxpayer is the Atlas

was making a tidy addition to his income by carrying drugs from the ultimate costs of the traffic. Netherlands and other parts of Europe | The redemption of drug victims from Into this country. On one occasion he their habit requires long and highly put a canister into the front of the specialized hospital treatment. Pickel furnace itself and banked it about with clean of their own money by the drug tire damaged it not a whit.

The leaders of the drug rings who must support. make these importations rarely do much | Until recent years all the public of the distributing of the drugs among ever heard of the illicit drug traffic was habitues, although they are in com- an occasional raid on an "optum plete control of it and are niways party." usually in the Chinatown of watchful that this control is in no way some big city.

The distributing agent is the diet, but who more frequently is not. the smokers lay in bunks and these men or sometimes women-go cooked "pills," which wafted them to among the babitues and supply them cooked "pills," which from small quantities of the drugs concented about their persons or elsewhere. Many artful dedges are used to conecal ceptive poisons was considered native the drugs from the casual observer, or to the Far East only, to such ports from the police and from the narcotic as Singapore and other map-dots in

There is one instance where a peddler coastal and inland cities of China. had hollowed out the inside of a bound Even China Now Trying volume of an innocuous magazine for children. This book, full inside with small packets of heroin, lay innocently | But even China turned against the on the table when the agents raided the evil and is now trying to uproot the place, and it was only instinct, the use of opium and its derivatives. With agents say, that made them examine it, true Oriental philegm, the Chinese The hollow necklace, the hollow cane, rulers took to lopping off the heads of "There," he said "Now let's have one of the most during and successful false-bottomed chair are standard de- Like an epidemic disease the drug vices, all of which tax the ingenuity of evil is now penetrating into the vitals

# Type in Secret Service

These agents represent the highest menace. There was a lood denor at this, but of a drug-selling gang for whom the employ and quite possibly in the resistible force of habit linked with finally one of the men ferched a scales agents had long been looking was spot- country. Even outside of the technical greed; on the other a slowly awarening ted in a certain rooming house. At 2 men, considerably better than average general consciousness of the peril which Now It -- bad an a consatie con- o'clock in the morning the solitary standards of education are required. confronts society. The crushing of the

of the men from the outside de- the same morning he got his quarry on hundred applicants and find not one cided to investigate is problematical. a train and before sunrise had them who is suitable. A year of active experience in criminal or civil investiga. tion is requisite, though experience of this sort in divorce cases is sufficient to qualify an applicant.

A few of the men come from other branches of the Federal service, a larger number come from the naval and military intelligence branches, some are graduates of central office and some have been police reporters for news.

Once an applicant has passed the manifold requirements he gets a six months' term as a probationer. During this time he is expected to demonstrate beyond question his fitness. If he does not he is unconditionally dismissed.

Applicants are subjected to a severe physical examination. There are no definite requirements of height and weight, but they must be organically sound and with stamina enough to stand frequent intervals of forty hours' work without sleep. Otherwise the Narcotic Division prefers small men to tall ones and thin men to stout ones, for tall, stout men cannot pass readily for victims of drugs. The age limit is forty-five, but nearly all the agents are young men in their twenties or early

The force is highly mobile-if it were not its effectiveness would be virtually nil. As soon as they become known to the tenderloin of various cities men are shifted from one district to another.

Thus they are kept in touch with the national aspects of the drug traffic and in the course of time learn to know persenally every drug seller of prominence

Without exception they are filled with a sort of religious zeal for their work, and it is this more than the high salaries they are paid that prompts them to extraordinary work.

#### Assist Many Addicts in Overcoming Habit

They are entirely without compunetion for the men they arrest; though with drug addicts themselves they are patient and charitable. They have personally assisted many of them to overcome the habit.

Under the Harrison law of 1915 to thould be remembered the taking of transfer. So when drug addicts are taken in the raids by Federal agents they are held merely as witnesses, and

public institutions which the taxpayer

Even sedate and highly conventional "reddler," who may himself be an ad- men and women get a thrill from read-

> But the widespread use of these dethe Straits Settlements and to the

### to Stamp Out Opium Evil

of Western civilization. America is exterminated yellow fever in the Canal Zone and rid Cuba of its chief disease

## Uncommon Sense

DEST is really rebuilding. "Oh!" the voice came more softly. chinery within you is disposing of the cells broken down by toll and replacing them with brand-new ones.

There was the rattle of several locks enough old ones are not got rid of for rebuilding, and it takes it in its opening and the door drew back nor enough new ones built up. had stuffed the muzzle of his revolver keep denying yourself rest, you die keep awake day times."

kills people.

dangerous extent is impossible.

The machine he occupies attends to MENTAL rest is also necessary, and this requires a chance of thought A dangerous extent is impossible.

light. In this room there was a hed light. In this room there was a hed the body takes it, whether its owner is willing or not. An energetic business man recently beset with onsulted a doctor believing he had was probably right.

my brain is all stirred up so I can't "Western Union!" shouted the agent. R While you sleep or sit quietly sleep, and I read till I get drowsyafter a day's work, the delicate ma- an hour or so longer perhaps."

66 VOUR sleeping fits aren't a dis Y case," said the doctor. "Your If your rest time is too short, body knows how much rest it needs own time, instead of yours, that's all. Presently you grow ill and, if you Sleep regularly at night and you'll

TO THE average man, overwork to a ture is better if done systematically.

and occupation as much as it does absolute idleness. "A change of trouble is in the nabeset with many tribulations, and he

The street car conductor who spenlittle rest.

pletely changes his environment, sees

This represents one of big-time hauls

One of the many devices employed by drug peddlers in concealing

After a manher of drings he confided was before. I'd like to see the staff to his nequantiance that he was from . There was a little denote. If a social structure and how manifold are Nashedle and had built up a considerable that R — leave he was the defenses—political and otherwise, the crable traffic among the Negrous of an analysis and during the sale. He that city and find come to Philadelphia, allowed them to scarch him and to to have coming and heroin in quantity, take a resolver from his coar pucket

Acquaintance Expands

as He Gives Information

The narcotic force is stroked now two promised to introduce R - - to some

a room nearnt, where he was introduced Rarely to their or solutions exercise to another. He was subjected to the but either division only for men of most suitle examination, and the extraordinary qualification. The first slighter the Kaney on the part of Remust be pharmace (real common and would have meant an abril end men with an extreme the fit for the to the negotiations. The special of vestigation and a rare lies for polythe those negotations was that it -was to pay \$10,000 in cash for a speci-

fied quantity of drugs. R - was too shreet to reprewent homself on the occasion as a drug Every drug raid is fraught with dead-tuser. To have done so convincingly

A false move by the agent, who ustal - place at the specified place and on a R- - was taken iil and compelled to The business of a narcotic agent calls, go to a hospital. As soon as he was

## Negotiations for Drugs

After R -- 's discharge from the to let me have the shuff?" vania, New Jersey, Delaware and hospital negotiations began all over "You're a Government the men agreed to turn over the drugs

This meant that he was to drift about who for a number of years had been tucked himself. Coming forward he nerve." The other men relaxed. got here right away." the tenderloin with no particular end living on the borderland of the under- looked into R-'s eyes and said "Well, let's have a look at the stuff," in view. He fitted himself out with a world, and had taken him along in some quietly:

cap and a loop suit. By the end of month, B - soil he had a w has first day of drifting he had scraped. Spottering Statistics. They used a an appraintment with one of the leaders, son it

of what was at that time the greatest. "I was a manual" said Rdrug ring in the city. got polices. But I never dealt to

Narcotic agent is shown here examining bottom of chair, which is

But the packet of money in his other pocket he preferred to keep "Now." said R .- , as though be were tired of all this, "are not ready" their cont porkets.

Agent," Said the Peddler

A hush followed for an instant. The could not even think of the other re-"See here," said Re- wearlis.

me stuff that's all right. I don't have something to carry the stuff away in. "Seat." cried the agent. She sat

and returned with a small grip, probationer and he has become since the shoe with the false heel and the those caught continuing in the practice. One man went into an adjoining room; was of course lifted out of the class of

agents in the service. The episode just "Now wait a manife." drawled related is by no means the most thrill- the agents. R ... . "I den't lines are none too ing of R ... 's experience, but it Agents Represent Highest well. Maybe after I m dealing with Is given because it is an excellent illusyou some time I take stuff on your tration of the medus operandi of both word. Just new 1's like to have it agent and criminal. all weighed out if you don't mind." At Atlantic City recently the head type of secret service in the Federal. On the one side is the almost in

cealed just at his groun "Nor," as he agent who had been following the case Applicants may number thousands drug evil can be hastened by public explained, "a very good draw" The knocked on the man's door. After a yearly. It is no infrequent experience, understanding and interest.

wall was several fact behind blig. I'm his opportunity. "Suppose," they said, ' that you put the money down here, too, and let us

"All right," said R ---He unbuttoned his cent and waistcont, moving imperceptably toward the Door Is Unlocked and wall. As soon as his tingers could touch against the butt of his automatic

count it at the same time."

#### "Tony" Is Surprised Covers "Cokers," Sends a little. The next minute the agent

Boy to Phone for Police "Now," he said, "at the first peep into the ribs of his quarry. The man's It is not overwork, however, that It is better for all people to rest there's going to be a rounful of dead name was Tony. "Never mind." said the agent, "back cokers." It was done so quickly that the men up!"

bands of the other two men were in volver on the table. It --- motioned hallway into a room where there was a the boy to titch it to him. "Now, kid." said be, "you go out- and in it the man's wife. As the pair "I'm getting a little sick of this here side. When these men at the door ask appeared on the threshold she reached fooling. If you don't want to sell where you're going you tell them for her arm undernenth a pillow.

Agent," Said the readier

The three men derescale and constructed in whispers. Sudden, the man hangled and chapted the number I told ton. When you get the man and go, and the man and go, Bouth, was sent out "on his own." R- had picked up a young gamin, R-, had not encountered before des said. "We only wanted to try your them to send as many men as they've search of the room. He found without All of the five were taken in the and with rather more difficulty several portant work to do I sit up till two fore their time. raid. What would have happened had thousand dollars' worth of drugs. Early or three in the morning at it. Then

He forced his man down a narrow

long pause a voice came from within.

The agent made no reply, and the

voice came louder:

"Who's there?"

to get it here. I know hits places? Then you go to a drug store and call up and remained motionless. Holding in a chair in a hotel, on the train but to get it here. I know hits places? Then you go to a drug store and call up and remained motionless. Holding in a chair in a hotel, on the train but the man and girl now in this corner going into town, senetimes on a treleplet.